

Family Project Update

September 2018



GREEN WARRIORS

On the 3rd of September, some of the parents of St Patrick's school, had organised a tidy up of the gardens, ahead of the school term and Green Warriors beginning again. It was fantastic to see some of the parents had taken this initiative and lovely to be asked along as a Green Warrior leader. It was a great way of catching up with some of the families before the school term started.

Green Warriors, which is the Monday after-school club for Year's 5 & 6 (ages 9-11), begins again on the 24th September. Green Warriors is a gardening club where we take time to explore a bible study around the theme of stewardship, before heading out to do some gardening in the school grounds. Every week a child is given a 'Take home challenge' that is linked to the bible topic that week. This is a challenge they are to complete at home, sometimes with their whole family. At the start of the next Green Warrior everyone shares how they completed that challenge.

We would love it if you prayed that Green Warriors continues to grow and attract more young people and their families to this community. For some of these children, this is their church and we feel privileged that we get to hear their thoughts and ponder their questions about God and the world we live in together.

PRAYER SPACES & PRAYER WALK

On Monday 17th September, Anne & I alongside Katy from NISCU, will be running prayer spaces and a prayer walk for the children and their parents/grandparents/guardians at St Patrick's school. For those who have donated CD's and plastic carrier bags, this is where they will be used.

We will be asking some of our Green Warriors to assist with one of the prayer spaces that involves planting. In the early afternoon we will explore the prayer spaces and walk with the children. Then the parents will be invited to join us and be shown the prayer spaces and walk by their children late afternoon.

On Tuesday 11th September, Anne, Katy and I will be leading an assembly at the school to launch the prayer spaces and walk ahead of its opening on the Monday.

We are hoping that the prayer walk will be a permanent feature at the school that we keep regularly updated. Last term, Green Warriors planted some trees and bushes in areas that were going to be part of the prayer walk. NISCU, in their lunchtime club, have been painting some stones with bible passages on them to line parts of the walk too.

Please pray that both the children and adults find a connection with the prayer spaces and walks that are created that day and as they continue to be part of the school grounds. Help those of us who are working alongside these individuals respond to their experience of prayer and work out what else we can do to ensure that this is not just a one-day activity but rather a beginning or continuation of a conversation with God.

YOUTH CLUB

Members of St. Patrick's Church are trialling a youth group, that will be held on a Tuesday evening, during term time, at Endmoor Village Hall from 7-8.30pm. This will be open for young people who are ages 9-13 (Year 5 - Year 8). Once a month, the parents/guardians of these young people will be invited to come along to the Youth Group for the last thirty minutes to eat with the group who will have baked/cooked something that week.

Preparation for this youth group began last November, so it is exciting that this Youth Group will open its doors on the 11th of September. We hope and pray that this is a success. We are trialling a structure of: games, a workshop of some kind, reflection time which will be a bible theme or story, followed by cake, drinks and chat.

Workshops this term include meeting and hearing from the local PCOS, balloon modelling, karate and a poetry workshop. Please keep the St. Patrick's team in your prayers as they start this new adventure. We are all excited to see where this goes and what young people find a place in this youth group who may perhaps hear and see what it is to be a Christian for the first time. We hope to be a team that shows this through our actions as much as our words.

DROP-IN

The Drop-in at St Mary's School in Kirkby Lonsdale will commence on Monday the 17th of September. Once again, it is exciting to see this begin after conversations which began last October have flourished into a project with a good core team, ready to be trialled this September. Many thanks to Juliet Bird and Pauline Kaye who have volunteered to be the team leaders for this project. I will meet with them regularly to hear how the project is going, listen to any concerns or worries and help them shape how this project develops.

The Drop-In will run from 2-3pm every Monday during term-time in a building at the back of St Mary's called The Shed. The Drop-In is, in essence, a listening project. It is a place for parents, guardians, and grandparents of the children of St. Mary's school to come, have a cup of tea and a chat about whatever is on their mind. This project was thought of after a conversation with the headteacher of St Mary's alongside feedback from our joint churches day away at the end of last year, where everyone's desire for the church community to be known as a listening community was heard. Please keep this whole team in your prayers, alongside the people who pop into The Shed for a chat. It takes bravery to enter a new space, to chat and to be listened too.

If you would like more information about any of these projects, or if you would like to find out how you could be involved my email is: lol@cilfamilyproject.org